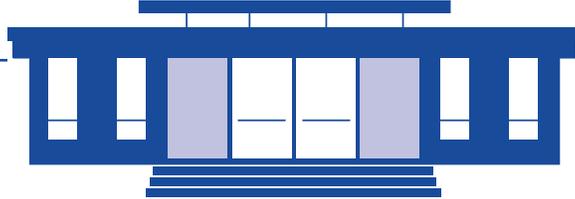




SNOW PARKING BAN: On-street parking is banned whenever there is more than one inch of new-fallen snow. This allows snow plows to do their jobs in the first critical hours after a snowfall.

GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • FEBRUARY 2020



HIGHLAND BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Town Council appoints new Redevelopment Commission

The Town Council has appointed a new group of five residents to lead redevelopment. From strategies for a gateway on north Kennedy Avenue to taking a comprehensive look at the needs of downtown, the newly configured Redevelopment Commission – sworn in Jan. 20 – includes business owners, realtors and residents interested in the town's multiple commercial corridors.

"I came to the council with a plan for the Redevelopment Commission to be an independent entity with appointed citizen members," Town Council President Mark Schocke said. "I am impressed with those who stepped forward and have full confidence in their ability make good decisions."

A majority of the prior council served in a dual capacity – as councilmen and redevelopment commissioners.

"I like the idea of getting new voices on the commission to guide the Town Council," Schocke said. "I'm looking forward to seeing how this commission will steer Highland forward." 🐦

[REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION]

- George Georgeff, President
- Bill Leep, Vice President
- Robyn Radford, Secretary
- Sean Conley, Member
- Cyril Huerter, Member
- Kathy DeGuilio-Fox, Redevelopment Director and Recording Secretary
- Michael Griffin, Clerk-reasurer
- Pat Krull, School Town of Highland
- Roger Sheeman, Council Liaison

[TOWN COUNCIL LIAISONS]

BERNIE ZEMEN - WARD 1

- Fire Department
- Plan Commission

MARK HERAK - WARD 2

- Board of Zoning Appeals
- Building and Inspections
- Economic Development
- Police Commission
- Public Works Department

MARK SCHOCKE - WARD 3

- Park & Recreation Board
- Police Pension Board Chairman

THOMAS BLACK - WARD 4

- Lake County Solid Waste Management District Board
- Sanitary Board
- Traffic Safety Commission
- Waterworks Board

ROGER SHEEMAN - WARD 5

- Community Events Commission
- Highland Main Street
- IT Department
- Redevelopment Commission
- Tree Board

CLERK-TREASURER M. GRIFFIN

- Northwestern Regional Planning Commission
- Joint Board of Delegates of the Interlocal Ethics Entity

Highland board and commission members as of January 27:

[BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS]

Susan Murovic, David Helms, Mario Martini, Joseph Grzymiski.

[ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT]

David Beanblossom, Matt Reardon, Michael Wieser.

[HIGHLAND MAIN STREET]

Dawn Diamantopolous, Mary Ellis, Emily Foreit, Julie Larson, Lola McKay, Kali Rasala, Renee Reinhart, Marie Russo, Kellie Shelton, Doug Van Ramshorst, Aubrey Velasquez, Mary Wells, Teri Yovkovich.

[PARK & RECREATION BOARD]

Carlos Aburto, Chris Ray, Nick Russon, Omar Torres.

[PLAN COMMISSION]

Joseph Grzymiski, Mark Kendra, Jim Kisse, Mario Martini, Doug Turich, Thomas Vander Woude.

[POLICE COMMISSION]

Michael Danko, Steve Jurczak, Terry Krooswyk, Larry Moes, James Slagle.

[SANITARY BOARD]

Rex Burton, Greg Cieslak, Laura Corpus, Richard Garcia, David Jones.

[TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION]

John Bach, John Banasiak, Steve Jurczak, Pete Hojnicky, Bill Timmer.

[TREE ADVISORY BOARD]

James Colias, Ron Jackowski, Terry Krooswyk, Constance Sherbondy, Richard Underkofler, Bill Vargo, Judy Vaughn.

[WATERWORKS BOARD]

Ed Dabrowski, Rick Volbrecht, Curt Schroeder, Larry Kondrat, George Smith.

Visit highland.in.gov for comprehensive information about each board and commission or download an application to be considered for an open seat.

RENEW BUSINESS LICENSE

Every Highland business is required to get a business license and renew it annually. Download a form at highland.in.gov. Complete the application and submit it along with the appropriate fee to the Office of the Clerk-Treasurer, Town Hall, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, Indiana. Make checks payable to the Town of Highland.

INFO: Call the Clerk-Treasurer's office at (219) 838-1080.

NOW STREAMING LIVE!

Highland Town Council meetings now stream on Facebook Live the second and fourth Mondays of the month. Join us on Facebook at Town of Highland, Indiana.



WARD 1

BERNIE ZEMEN
bzemen@comcast.net
(219) 781-1056



WARD 2

MARK HERAK
mherak@highland.in.gov
(219) 838-0126



WARD 3

MARK SCHOCKE
mschocke@highland.in.gov
(219) 207-2075



WARD 4

TOM BLACK
tblack@highland.in.gov
(219) 301.2077



WARD 5

ROGER SHEEMAN
rsheeman@highland.in.gov
(630) 673-3363



CLERK-TREASURER

MICHAEL GRIFFIN
mgriffin@highland.in.gov
(219) 838-1080

NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMISSION LOOKING FOR OUTGOING VOLUNTEERS

Before he became a town councilman, Roger Sheeman had big ideas to grow longstanding traditions – like the Fourth of July festival and New Year's Eve festivities – and even bigger plans to add dynamic new events to the town calendar.

As the council liaison to the Community Events Commission, Sheeman wasted no time in reaching out to existing members as well as citizens interested in helping enhance Highland's image as the place to be for fun.

"We want to add venues and entertainment that will attract more of our residents as well as those from nearby towns," he said. "We're going to roll out plans for bigger and better entertainment at our Independence Day festival along with additional events later this spring." 🐦

[COMMUNITY EVENTS COMMISSION]

Multiyear terms: John Brezlin, Liz Breslin, Dean Smith Sr., Kristen Smith and Dawn Wolak. **One-year terms:** Elizabeth Alkel, Michael Blejski, Michael Cardone, Christine Gonzalez, Jacqueline Herrera, Kris Kornaus, De Anna Kornaus, John Salzeider and Jason Tharp.

HOW TO VOLUNTEER

Eager volunteers are vital to promoting Highland and extending good will throughout the region. One of the bonuses of the Community Events Commission is the ability to sign up for a one-year stint as a volunteer and then re-up as your schedule permits. As a volunteer member of the Community Events Commission, residents can choose a favorite event or several – it's all up to you.

"The volunteer program is tailor-made for working individuals and those who have busy schedules, but still want to be involved," Councilman Roger Sheeman said. "I encourage anyone who has thought about volunteering to give the Community Events Commission a try."

HOW TO APPLY: Applications are available at Town Hall or online at highland.in.gov/CommunityEventsCommission. Simply fill out an application and submit to the Clerk-Treasurer's office.

ANIMAL WARDEN, NEW ASSISTANT WARDEN LEADING TOWN ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES

A typical day for Animal Warden Mike Lambertino and his new assistant Aubrey Llano includes a plentiful number of wet dog kisses and a fair amount of working to make their short-term, furry charges comfortable.

As the duo who share responsibilities for Highland Animal Control, Lambertino spent time on this late January day posting to Facebook in the hope of finding the owners of a German Shepherd and another shepherd mix that were found in town over the weekend.

"The first thing we do when a dog – or cat – comes into our care is check for a collar with tags or a microchip," Lambertino said. "If they don't have either of those and we can't identify the owner, we post a photo and location of where the animal was found on Facebook. Our hope is within a short window, we are able to reunite the animal with its owner." 🐦

REPORT A LOST PET: Call the Highland police nonemergency number at (219) 838-3184.

ANIMAL LICENSE FEES

All dogs and cats that call Highland home need a license. Registering is a one-step process at the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, 3333 Ridge Road. Forms require contact information as well as pet name, breed, sex, color, spay/neuter and vet. A small fee applies. The owner will then receive a tag the pet is required to wear. Each year the town reunites pets and their owners through the license program.

Animal license fees are:

- Spayed and neutered animals: \$7 before March 1, \$12 after March 1. Requires proof of rabies vaccine.
- Animals not spayed and neutered: \$10 before March 1, \$15 after March 1. Requires proof of rabies vaccine.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit highland.in.gov/animalcontrol to learn more about our feral cat program, how to adopt a pet and more.

CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT, TECHNOLOGY KEY TO SOLVING CRIMES

Technology-driven policing was a boon to crime-solving in 2019. License plate readers, intersection cameras and facial recognition gave Highland police an edge in solving some of the town’s more significant crimes.

Police Chief Pete Hojnicky said data-driven policing allowed the department to schedule officers when and where they were needed to prevent criminal activity.

“The public was very helpful in identifying suspects we posted on social media,” Hojnicky said. “Community policing programs that are always ramped up in summer and fall allowed us to spend more time with residents and learn firsthand about their concerns.”

Officers turned feedback from residents into action – whether it was speeding vehicles, stop sign violations, junk vehicles or unkempt properties.

“We kept criminal activity in check in 2019,” he said. “We encourage residents to monitor the HPD Facebook page and sign up for SMART 911/RAVE alerts.”

WHAT’S NEXT?

The Highland Police Department’s 2020 initiatives will focus on:

- ✓ Building technology-driven policing efforts with more license plate readers and intersection cameras and assign personnel based upon data collected.
- ✓ Enhancing the use of its social media platform to better communicate HPD concerns and efforts to the public.
- ✓ Heightening community policing efforts to better facilitate Highland resident’s quality of life issues.

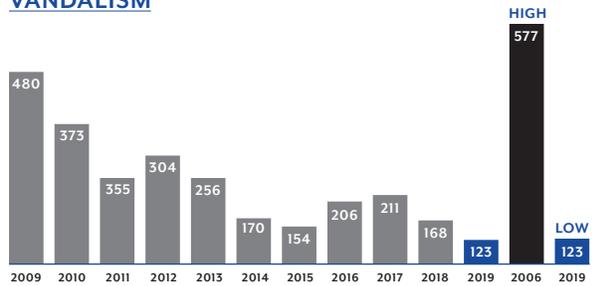
FULL REPORT

Visit highland.in.gov/crime or find us on Facebook @highlandindianapolice for the full report on 2019 crime statistics.

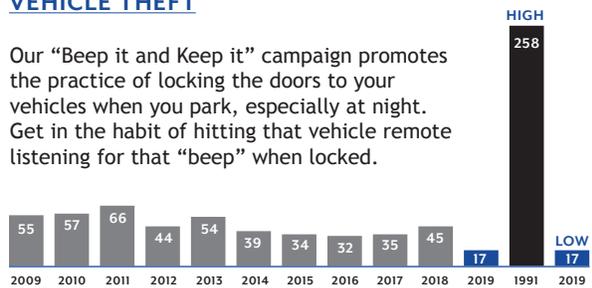
2019 CRIME STATISTICS

Highland police continue to keep criminal activity in check. Here’s a snapshot of crime statistics for the Town of Highland over the last 10 years:

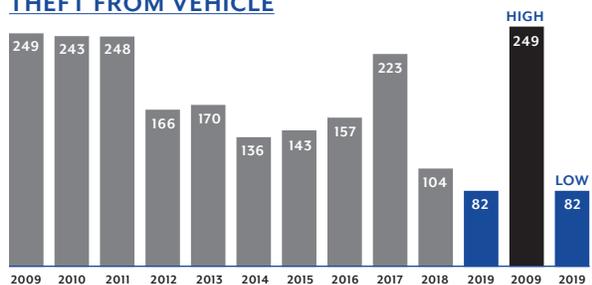
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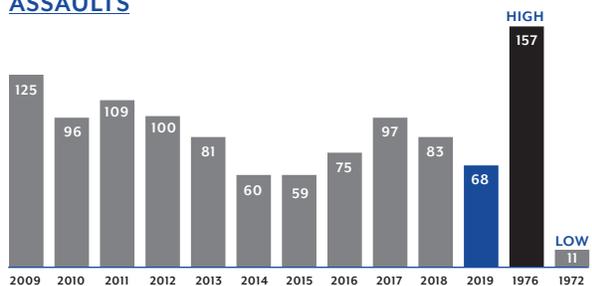
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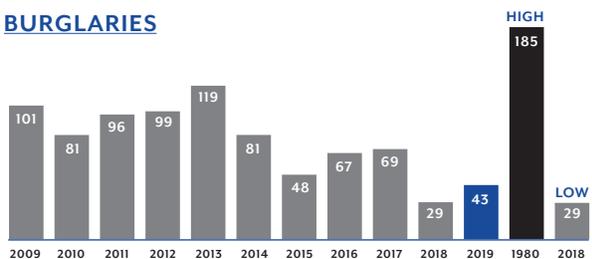
THEFT FROM VEHICLE



ASSAULTS



BURGLARIES



SOURCE: Highland Police Department

BABE RUTH REGISTRATION

Register online for Highland Babe Ruth and Travel Leagues at highlandbaberuth.com or in-person at date/time below.

BABE RUTH: Ages 13 to 15

SENIOR BABE RUTH: Ages 16 to 19

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **FEBRUARY 22**

WHERE: Lincoln Center Room 109

FEE: \$200 per player

NOTE: Both divisions are open to players who reside in Lake County, IN.

INFO: Call Lisa Stacy at (219) 381-5331 or email hbrinfo@highlandbaberuth.com.

HIGHLAND LITTLE LEAGUE

Boys and girls can register now for the following divisions: T-Ball, Rookie, Minor B, Minor A and Majors.

LEAGUE AGES: 4 to 12

WHEN: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **FEBRUARY 22**

WHERE: Lincoln Center

FEE: \$115 to \$175 based on division

NOTE: Players MUST turn 4 by August 31, 2019 and reside or go to school in Highland. Birth certificate and proof of residency are required at registration.

ONLINE REGISTRATION: Visit www.highlandll.com, where you'll also find registration and medical release forms.

INFO: Email info@highlandll.com.

ADULT SLOW-PITCH

Registration begins this month for men's and co-rec softball teams. League format will depend on number of teams in division. Top teams receive cash (check) prizes. Rosters are limited to 20 players. Players must be 18 years or older.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. weeknights, 5:30 p.m. Sundays. Season begins **APRIL 14** (single games) and **MAY 3** (double-header). Manager's meeting to be announced before the start of the season.

TEAM FEE: \$650 due by **APRIL 1**. Deposit must be made in order to reserve spot!

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

CHORUS AUDITIONS

The Northwest Indiana Youth Chorus will begin holding auditions for singers 6-18 who are looking for training and experience in vocal performance.

WHEN: 6:30 p.m. Mondays

WHERE: Lincoln Center Room 112

INFO: For more information or to schedule an audition, please call Bonnie Neff at (219) 629-5448 or email bdneff@iun.edu.



FINANCIAL FORUMS

FINANCIAL PEACE

Financial Peace University will help you master budgeting, beat debt and live the life of your dreams. Sponsored by Lincoln Street Church, this nine-week course includes a workbook and other exclusive online benefits through a free one-year membership. Space is limited. Register by February 16. Learn more at daveramsey.com/fpu.

WHEN: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, March 3-April 28

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$89 individual or couple sharing a workbook

INVESTMENT SEMINAR

Curious about investing, but are unsure exactly where to start? Join us on any of the following dates for a free seminar brought to you by Danny Torok, an Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

SEMINAR 1: 1 p.m. February 18
"Investing in the Late Innings"

SEMINAR 2: 6 p.m. March 18
"Tax Free Investing"

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

QUESTIONS? For more information about these or other programs, call the park office at (219) 838-0114 or visit us online at highlandparks.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Sixth, seventh, and eighth grade residents of Highland or students attending a Highland school are invited to participate in the Middle School Basketball League. League format will be determined by registration numbers. Everyone receives a team T-shirt. First-place team receives champion T-shirts. Teams will be chosen through a player draft with the coaches.

WHEN: Wednesday nights, **APRIL 1-JUNE 3**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$50 resident | \$55 nonresident

REGISTRATION: Deadline is **MARCH 1**

NOTE: There will be a Mandatory Skills Assessment from 6:45-8 p.m. **MARCH 4** in the Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse.

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Highland students are invited to participate in the High School Basketball League. League format will be determined by registration numbers. Everyone receives a team T-shirt. First-place team will receive champion T-shirts. Please note: Participants will sign up as individuals and teams will be chosen through a player draft with the coaches.

WHEN: Wednesday nights, **APRIL 1-JUNE 3**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$50 resident | \$55 nonresident

REGISTRATION: Deadline is **MARCH 1**

NOTE: There will be a Mandatory Skills Assessment from 6:45-8 p.m. **MARCH 11** in the Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse.

INFO: highlandparks.org or (219) 838-0114